ZCZC LBBPNSLBB DEF TTAA00 KLBB DDHHMM

PUBLIC INFORMATION STATEMENT
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE LUBBOCK TX
600 AM CST FRI MAR 7 2003

WRITTEN BY NWS NORMAN...OK
...CONTINUING SEVERE WEATHER AWARENESS WEEK IN TEXAS...

SAFETY AFTER THE STORM

VIOLENT THUNDERSTORM WINDS...LARGE HAIL...AND TORNADOES CAN CAUSE CONSIDERABLE DAMAGE TO BUILDINGS...TREES...AND POWER LINES. KNOWING WHAT TO DO TO STAY SAFE AFTER A STORM CAN SOMETIMES BE JUST AS IMPORTANT AS SAFETY BEFORE AND DURING A STORM.

BROKEN GLASS...STRUCTURAL DAMAGE...AND DOWNED POWER LINES REPRESENT THE GREATEST THREAT TO PERSONAL SAFETY AFTER A DAMAGING THUNDERSTORM. YOU SHOULD NOT TRY TO ENTER A HEAVILY DAMAGED BUILDING. PARTS OF THE STRUCTURE MAY COLLAPSE WITHOUT WARNING... AND DISTURBING THE BUILDING MAY EVEN ACCELERATE ITS COLLAPSE. ALSO...DAMAGE TO PIPES WITHIN THE BUILDING CAN CAUSE NATURAL GAS LEAKS...RESULTING IN AN INCREASED FIRE DANGER. BE EXTRA CAREFUL WHEN SIFTING THROUGH PILES OF DEBRIS...MAKING SURE TO AVOID NAILS...BROKEN GLASS...AND SHARDS OF METAL. STAY AWAY FROM DOWNED POWER LINES.

A DISASTER PREPAREDNESS KIT CAN HELP FAMILIES HANDLE THE AFTERMATH OF A STORM. THE KIT SHOULD CONTAIN ITEMS FROM SIX BASIC CATEGORIES...WATER...FOOD...FIRST AID SUPPLIES...CLOTHING AND BEDDING...EMERGENCY SUPPLIES...AND SPECIAL ITEMS.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON SAFETY AFTER THE STORM AND ON DEVELOPING A SEVERE WEATHER SAFETY PLAN...VISIT THE NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE WEBSITE AT WWW.SRH.NOAA.GOV.